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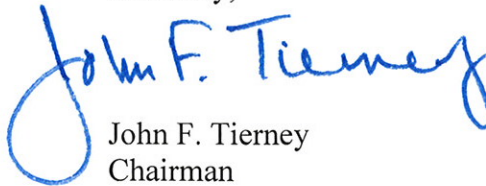
The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

The Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs of the House Oversight Committee hereby requests your presence (or the presence of your designee) at a hearing entitled "Bringing Accountability to U.S. Arms Transfers: The Train and Equip Program for Iraqi Security Forces." For your reference, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East, Mark T. Kimmitt, was the point person for the Department in commenting on the Government Accountability Office's report on the subject - "Stabilizing Iraq: DOD Cannot Ensure That U.S.-Funded Equipment has Reached Iraqi Security Forces." The hearing is scheduled for Thursday, September 6th, at 10:00 AM in 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Please contact Andy Wright at (202) 225-4771 or Dave Turk at (202) 225-4766 on the Subcommittee staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John F. Tierney
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security
and Foreign Affairs